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ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,
SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND LIBRARIAN,
OF THE
TOWN OF HANCOCK,
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
ENDING MARCH, 1875.

MANCHESTER, N. H.:
PRINTED BY CAMPBELL & HANSCOM.
1875.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE TOWN

OF HILSDALE

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING MARCH 31, 1881

MADE AT THE

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN

ANNUAL REPORTS
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TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

*Joseph Davis, Town Treasurer, in Account with the Town
of Hancock. Dr.*

To Balance of cash in Treasurer's hands	
close of last settlement,	\$756 98
State bonds,	3,700 00
State bonds, Hubbard legacy,	2,000 00
Cash on Wm. Robinson's note and interest,	74 98
Cash returned by Asa Simond's from Library Committee,	15 00
Cash one year's interest on State bonds,	222 00
Cash one year's interest on bonds, Hubbard legacy,	120 00
Cash received State Treasurer, savings bank tax, 1874,	885 36
Cash received State Treasurer, rail- road tax, 1874,	119 04
Cash received State Treasurer, liter- ary fund, 1874,	58 22
Cash received State Treasurer, U. S. bounty,	32 00
Cash received Collector Wilds, for the year 1873,	249 49
Cash received of County for County paupers,	156 50
Cash received of Collector Barney for 1874,	2,696 77
Cash received of Collector Barney for 1872,	1 66
	<hr/> \$11,088 00

*Joseph Davis, Town Treasurer, in Account with the Town
of Hancock, Cr.*

By cash paid the several school districts, which sum includes the literary fund for 1874, and balance of dog tax for 1872-3 :

District No. 1, Asahel Bigelow, Prudential Committee, . . .	\$156 40	
No. 2, Zenas Davis, Prud. Com.	106 40	
No. 3, Edward Mullhall, "	106 40	
No. 4, John Welch, "	106 40	
No. 5, Milan E. Davis, "	106 40	
No. 6, Warren Stearns, "	106 40	
No. 7, Jonathan Nesmith "	106 40	
No. 8, C. A. Whitaker, "	106 40	
No. 9, Jas. D. Mathews, "	96 40	
No. 5, Harrisville, "	20 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,017 60

1874.

April 25. Paid John H. Felch, for High School District, . . .	\$200 00	
Oct. 29. Paid John H. Felch, for High School District, . . .	200 00	
	<hr/>	\$400 00

COUNTY PAUPERS.

Paid Mrs. M. H. Priest, support of C. Howard,	\$78 25	
Mrs. F. H. Thayer, for support of Lorena Hills,	78 25	
	<hr/>	\$156 50

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Asa Simonds, goods furnished Asa Hart,	\$7 50	
Asa Simonds, for support of Mrs. Ward Ware,	29 25	

Paid Moses W. Rice, support of Mrs. Sinclair,	\$7 00	
Selectmen, for Mrs. Ward Ware, .	5 00	
Daniel McAdams, Mrs. Ward Ware, .	53 00	
David Patten, transient paupers, .	5 00	
Charles Hayward, support of paupers,	260 00	
Charles Hayward, making shirts for Oscar Hall,	1 00	
A. D. Tuttle, flannel for Oscar Hall, .	2 63	
Mrs. C. Knight, support of Mrs. Gasset,	8 00	
Asa Simonds, Overseer of Poor, .	8 00	
		<hr/>
		\$386 38

FOR NEW CEMETERY.

Paid Joseph Davis, land damage, .	\$20 00	
David Hills, " " .	350 00	
John W. Coolidge, surveying, .	22 00	
John W. Coolidge, corner stones for Plots,	48 00	
Joseph Davis, record book for Cemetery,	4 50	
Jonas W. Goodhue, labor on Cemetery,	1 50	
Charles Turner, committee on rules for new cemetery,	5 00	
Albert Jaquith, committee on rules for new cemetery,	5 00	
Ebenezer Ware, committee on rules for new cemetery,	5 00	
John H. Felch, committee on rules for new cemetery,	5 00	
Asa Simonds, committee on rules for new cemetery,	5 00	

Paid Joshua S. Lakin, labor on new cemetery,	\$17 00
Asa Simonds, labor on new cemetery,	19 25
Asa Simonds, part pay for wall for new cemetery,	30 00
John H. Felch, for labor on new cemetery,	25 00
	<hr/>
	\$562 25

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Paid Simon S. Fogg, wood for town hall,	\$2 00
Edward Mullhall, sheep killed by dogs,	5 00
Joseph Davis, money paid for stationery,	4 35
Nathaniel H. Tyrrel, mowing old cemetery,	2 00
A. D. Tuttle, binding library books,	10 45
Charles F. Brown, sheep killed by dogs,	6 00
M. V. B. Green, collector's book and treasurer's orders,	7 30
S. N. Bell, counsel,	5 00
Joshua L. Lakin, journey and expenses to Manchester,	5 90
John H. Felch, journey and expenses to Manchester,	5 90
Jereme Weston, damage to horse,	5 00
Zopher W. Brooks, care town clock,	12 00
John W. Cutler, reporting births and deaths,	75
Joshua S. Lakin, going to Manchester and paying counsel,	9 00
Campbell & Hanscom, printing town reports,	31 50

Paid Moses W. Rice, abatement of tax,	\$1 00	
Charles Turner, tolling bell, . . .	3 30	
Library Committee,	75 00	
A. D. Tuttle, stationery,	1 40	
G. W. Hayward, care Town Hall,	10 00	
G. W. Hayward, sexton,	4 00	
Elijah Washburn, watering trough,	3 00	
William P. Hall, " "	3 00	
Asa Simonds, snowing covered bridge,	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$214 85

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Thomas Welch, repairing bridge, .	\$4 00	
John P. Hills, labor and plank for bridge,	20 51	
Joshua S. Lakin, labor on bridge, .	3 00	
George Barney, labor and plank for bridge,	6 10	
E. J. Robinson, labor on bridge, .	1 00	
Milton Tenney, stringers to bridge,	1 00	
O. L. Boutelle, bridge plank, . . .	2 42	
R. H. Colby, " "	9 29	
David Wilds, " "	8 64	
Edwin Ware, plank and labor on bridge,	5 50	
C. M. Sheldon, lumber for bridge, .	3 17	
John W. Coolidge, bridge plank and labor,	24 00	
Willis A. Washburn, labor on high- way,	1 50	
Thomas Brown, breaking roads, March, 1873,	2 20	
Wm. Robinson, railing and string- ers,	2 95	

Paid James D. Mathews, labor and bridge plank,	\$1 90	
Charles Turner, care sand-hill,	1 50	
John Duncan, labor on highway,	2 50	
Rufus Tuttle, stringers and plank,	3 50	
		<hr/>
		\$104 68

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

Paid Asa Simonds, Selectman,	\$52 25	
Joshua S. Lakin, "	52 50	
John H. Felch, "	53 00	
Joseph Davis, Town Clerk,	30 63	
Joseph Davis, Supt. School Com.,	40 00	
Joseph Davis, Treasurer,	20 00	
Frank Barney, Collector,	25 00	
A. D. Tuttle, Librarian,	25 00	
W. H. Weston, Supt. School Com- mittee, 1873,	3 00	
Auditor's bill,	3 00	
		<hr/>
		\$304 38

State Treasurer, State tax,	\$1,032 00
County Treasurer, County tax,	584 65
Non-resident highway tax,	72 68
Abatement of Tax Collector Barney's list of 1874,	1 40

RECAPITULATION.

Money received by Treasurer,	\$11,088 00
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MONEY PAID OUT BY TREASURER.

Paid Several school districts,	\$1,017 60
Support county paupers,	156 50
Support town paupers,	386 38
Miscellaneous bills,	214 85

Paid repairing roads and bridges, . . .	\$104 86
New cemetery,	562 25
Town officers,	304 38
State Treasurer, State tax, . . .	1,032 00
County Treasurer, County tax, . .	584 65
High School district,	400 00
Non-resident tax,	72 68
Abatement of taxes,	1 40
	————— \$4,837 37

JOSEPH DAVIS, *Treasurer.*

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing accounts and find them correctly cast and duly vouched, and find a balance in the Treasurer's hands of six thousand two hundred and fifty dollars and sixty-three cents (\$6,250.63.)

ANDREW B. STONE,
JOHN P. HILLS,
A. D. TUTTLE,
Auditors.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Number of paupers supported during the year,	3
Cost of supporting town paupers as per Treasurer's report,	\$386 38
Number of County paupers supported by the town the past year,	2
Cost of supporting County paupers,	156 50
There will be due W. W. Hall, May 14, 1875, for the support of Mrs. Ward Ware,	29 25
There has been assistance rendered three persons during the year, as shown by the Treasurer's report.	

ASA SIMONDS,
JOSHUA S. LAKIN,
JOHN H. FELCH,
Overseers of the Poor.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

Due W. W. Hall, May 14, 1875, for support of Mrs. Ward Ware,	\$29 25
High School Committee,	200 00
David Hills, for land damage,	35 00
First Congregational Society,	12 00
March 9, to H. W. Ware, for damage to sheep,	5 00
	<hr/> \$281 25

The foregoing are all the claims against the town of which we have any knowledge.

ASSETS OF THE TOWN.

State Bonds,	\$5,700 00
Money in Treasury,	550 63
In Collector Barney's hands, 1872,	36
In Collector Wild's hands, 1873,	1 98
In Collector Barney's hands, 1874,	455 50
	<hr/>
	\$6,708 47
Assets over debts,	\$6,427 22

ASA SIMONDS,
JOSHUA S. LAKIN,
JOHN H. FELCH,

Selectmen of Hancock.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In conformity with the laws of our State, the Superintending School Committee has made out and presents his Annual Report of the district schools in town, which he has had the supervision of the past year. They have been for the most part successfully managed. The improvement, discipline and order, in most of them was very commendable. There was but one failure and that was for the want of ability of the teacher to impart her instruction to the scholars, so that they could understand their lessons, therefore it was thought advisable to have the school stop, as there was apparently no good results from such teaching. But I would not have it understood that the management, discipline and instruction in the schools of the several districts was equally good; far otherwise, for all are not adapted for teachers; still they went through their schools in a manner very acceptable, the pupils being small and but few in number a commendable progress was apparent.

Again I would say, as in my former report, that all who intend to teach or make teaching their business, to make up their minds they must work, and not be like drones, to consume the money of the district and not render an equivalent for it, by not doing their duty to instruct their children, because it requires labor, patience, thought, energy, and a love for your calling. If money is your aim and object, and not the good of the school you engage to teach—if you have no love for teaching, no respect for the young, or take any interest or pleasure in explaining the lessons to those who are placed under your care for discipline and instruction, and even the school-house, especially the school-room, strikes a dread on those who go into it for the

pay, and get through their labor in the most easy manner possible, without accomplishing the desired object which was expected of you by the district—then I would say to such, if you have no pleasure in the work, the sooner you get out of it the better for yourself, and in all probability the public generally. Because bad management in our primary schools will produce bad results for years, and often for life.

“ Scratch the green rind of a sapling, or wantonly twist it in the soil,
The scarred and crooked oak, will tell of thee for centuries to come;
Even so may'st thou guide the mind to good, or lead it to the marrings of
evil,
For disposition is builded up by the fashioning of first impressions.”

Such being the power of our Primary schools over the whole course of education, they should receive our closest attention, and the most careful supervision of all who take charge of them. It requires a peculiar order of teaching talent for their management. The work is delicate and critical, demanding special ability. I would impress upon the minds of both parents and teacher the fact that the primary schools are the most important of all others, for this reason: when the child enters them his mental habits are unformed. His mind has been compared to a blank page, upon which the teacher may inscribe whatever is desired.

This comparison I consider wholly wrong, because the blank page should be kept fair and white; though neglected at first, it may be appropriately filled up in the future. But the mind of the child will not wait until it is operated upon by some one; it will be active, and if neglected by those who have charge of it will be apt to form random and vagrant habits for itself. It is said to be like the sheet of the photographer, which may, when exposed, be made to reflect the forms of symmetry and beauty, or of discord and deformity. It does not wait the convenience of the operator, nor will it let him erase the work and begin again if he makes a mistake. The mind of the child begins at once to adopt ideas and develop habits that are not easily eradicated, either good or bad.

If the child understands at the outset that there is no enmity

between the school and the play ground, and the school is made attractive and pleasant; if his first steps in learning are made interesting, so that he desires to be taught more, and begins to feel a sacred thirst for knowledge, if he acquires habits of industry and method, if he is trained to despise what is low and mean, and to respect that which is fair and honorable,—then we may consider a foundation has been laid fit for any superstructure which can be built. Every child who has had this training will show its good effects in after life as well as in the school-room. Yes, such a youth will stand among his classmates like Saul among his brethren.

Here let me give the opinion of a celebrated author in regard to what constitutes a good school-teacher, who says, “A good school-teacher should be a person who knows much more than they are called upon to teach, that they may teach with intelligence and taste; a person who has a noble and elevated mind, that they may preserve that dignity of sentiment and deportment, without which they will never retain the confidence of their pupils; one that is not ignorant of their rights, showing to all good examples, satisfied with his business, because it gives him power to do good by serving his God and his fellow creatures.”

Teachers cannot do all to make their schools what they desire unless there is a united feeling of the citizens of the district to encourage their children to go to school; see that they are there in season; provide them with suitable books; impress upon their minds the importance of obtaining an education while young, because it is only a portion of their earlier years in life that can be devoted to it. Then how important that the young should receive such instruction in all our elementary schools which would fit them for usefulness in after life.

Your Committee find that many of the first lessons in the spelling book are very much neglected in most of our district schools, which are so essential to the young, such as abbreviations, punctuation, rules of spelling, etc. These may appear little things at first to scholars, and perhaps to some teachers,

but let us remember that faithfulness in *little things* makes something great. It is the little acorn that produces the sturdy oak that yields not its power to the storm or tempest. Neither will the youth, who has acquired a knowledge of the first principles of his elementary lessons, yield his power and influence that it has given him over society to those of a more superficial character.

It requires a person of cheerfulness, energy, wisdom, and an amiable disposition to instruct the young, that many of our more liberally educated teachers lack. Every teacher should adapt his language to the capacity of those they have under their charge. A right beginning is no small protection against the bad effects of after wrong handling. I cannot but feel it a duty to express my approbation of the manner in which the High School was conducted, under the able and efficient instructors, last term, and who now have charge of that department.

The scholars showed their discipline and training in their daily deportment, in going to and from the school, which is a sure index of the examples and moral instruction taught them while in the school room.

I will here close my remarks for the present, and give a short and brief account of the several schools as taught in town the past year.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Taught by Miss Florence E. Gould of Nelson, Summer, Fall and Winter, an able, well-disposed and accomplished teacher, devoted to her calling. She sustained herself with dignity, which commanded the respect of her pupils. Each term showed a very commendable improvement, especially the Winter term, which would have been highly satisfactory had not some of the more indolent and vicious caused the teacher some trouble, as well as disturbing the quietness of the school. Miss Gould is a worthy teacher, and one to whom the care of youth can safely be trusted.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Taught by John T. Robertson of Greenfield. This district has but one term during the year. No Summer term, as there are no small children to go. The literary attainments of this school stand high. The scholars are of an age to know the value of an education and appreciate the privilege of attending school. Mr. Robertson appeared interested in his work, his explanations were short and plain, and easy to be understood. The scholars appeared well, orderly and attentive at each examination. May success attend them in the pursuits of life, out, as well as in the schoolroom.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Taught by Miss Annie S. Mullhall, in the summer, and Miss Mary E. Coolidge, in the winter, both of Hancock. This was Miss Mullhall's first attempt at teaching; she was young, and the committee feared she would fail in her efforts, but her success was far better than many of more experience and older in years. She was ambitious, persevering and very circumspect in all her management. The scholars were quite small, but they gave a good account of themselves at the close of the school.

Miss Coolidge maintained an easy, quiet self-possession, imparting instruction to her pupils. The school was quiet and orderly, manifesting a good degree of talent and ability in their recitations.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Kept by Miss E. E. Sheldon, both Summer and Winter term. Miss Sheldon taught with her usual ability and success. This school did well, progress good.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Summer term was taught by Miss Annie P. Jenkins of Mont Vernon. The school was quite small, both in number and size, and the improvement was not so apparent as in many others.

Miss Jenkins endeavored to do her duty to those under her instruction as well as could be expected, with the material she had to do with.

Winter term was commenced by Miss Josie E. Morse of Brattleboro', Vt., and for want of tact, and ability to instruct those under her charge, the committee thought it advisable to have the school stop, for the interest of the district, as no good would result from such teaching; consequently the teacher left, and the school was closed under the instruction of Miss Ida E. Johnson of Hancock, a faithful and energetic teacher. Progress under Miss Johnson was very commendable, but not as good as it would have been, could she have had charge during the whole term.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

Summer term of this school was kept by Miss Hattie E. Weston of Hancock. This was Miss Weston's first attempt at teaching. Success crowned her efforts, order, discipline and improvement, very satisfactory.

Winter school was taught by Miss Nellie A. Hadley, a very efficient and capable teacher. Everything was carried on in harmony by scholars and teacher; the closing examination was of such a character as to convince every one present that the school in No. 6 was a success.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

The Summer term, taught by Miss Fanny H. Nesmith of Hancock, an excellent teacher of youth; one who goes into the school room with a purpose and a determination to do her duty, and she does it, too. School in Winter kept by Fred B. Richards of Hancock. A good worker in the school room, just what is necessary for the advancement of every school,—and the closing examination gave evidence that the labors of these teachers both terms were appreciated by the scholars.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

The school in Summer kept by Miss Mary E. Coolidge of Hancock, who sustained herself creditably as a teacher. The proficiency made by the scholars showed that the instruction they had received, was good.

The Winter school was under the instruction of a very able and efficient teacher, Miss Esther J. Rhodes, a teacher from the Normal School, at Plymouth. The standing this school acquired under her tuition was of such an order as to receive the approbation of parents, committee, and scholars. The classes were so well drilled in their several lessons, but few hesitated in answering their questions, or performing their examples in Arithmetic when called upon. The services of such teachers are worthy of commendation.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Mary J. Dutton of Hancock, teacher of Summer school. Her efforts were well directed to accomplish the object of her mission. The scholars in this district are attentive, orderly, and well disposed. The school in Winter was under the instruction of Miss Alice S. Goodhue of Hancock, a teacher of good attainment and ability, well calculated to fill the position of that noble calling, a teacher of youth. The classes under her tuition were well drilled in their lessons. Consequently the attainments made by the scholars in their studies were of a high order, considering the age of the pupils. I trust the services of such teachers as Miss Goodhue will not be passed by without notice.

In the distribution of the school money the past year, by the town, it has been the means of equalizing the money in the several districts, so that each district had about the same number of weeks of schooling where they had two terms during the year; but still this division does not appear to be just right. For instance, a district of fifteen scholars receives no more than the one of six or seven, and the one of thirty or forty only receives about fifty dollars more than the rest. Now if we look at the

statistics, we shall find that the amount of money allowed to each scholar in the several districts varies from fifteen to three dollars, but if equally divided according to the number of scholars in town, it would give about \$7.37 per head. But there is one thing that would be advisable, if it could be done judiciously and satisfactorily to all, that is, to diminish the number of districts.

In conclusion I would say that the primary schools have done their work well, in a majority of the districts, the past year. But it cannot be expected that all our schools are free from many defects, nor that they have reached the full measure of attainable usefulness, and so long as the spirit of improvement is progressing in our schools, we are inclined to be satisfied with the present, and indulge greater hopes for their future.

Let us not be weary in well doing. Let us cherish the common school system, which tends to the promotion of good government, the formation of industrious habits, the acquisition of sound knowledge and the cultivation of the christian virtues.

JOSEPH DAVIS,

Superintending School Committee.

HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL REPORT.

In compliance with the provisions of the act organizing the town into a High School District, the undersigned were appointed a Committee, representing the several School Districts in town, and having superintended and managed the prudential affairs of the district, they would present the following report.

Fall term, 1873, commenced August 18th; closed November 7th. Whole number of scholars, 51. Spring term, 1874, commenced February 2d; closed April 24th. Whole number of scholars, 45.

Considering the difficulties attendant upon the starting of a new movement, the Committee feel that the school has been comparatively successful. If the school is hereafter supported with that zeal which the cause of education deserves and the times demand, it will prove of incalculable benefit to all concerned.

The Committee present the following Financial Report:

MONEY RECEIVED.

Rec'd of the Town Treasurer,	. . .	\$400 00	
Tuition,	19 50	
		<hr/>	\$419 50

MONEY PAID OUT.

Paid Carl E. Knight, Teacher, (2 terms,)	\$394 75
Chas. E. Todd, Janitor, (fall term,)	4 00
Alden S. Wood, for wood and crayons,	10 85

Paid A. D. Tuttle, for broom, postal cards and crayons,	\$1 15	
Farnum and Scott, for printing,	3 75	
Geo. W. Goodhue, Janitor, (spring term,)	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$419 50

- District No. 1, ASAHIEL BIGELOW, *Chairman*.
 No. 2, LUTHER C. DUTTON,
 No. 3, JOHN W. COOLIDGE,
 No. 4, JOHN H. FELCH, *Clerk*.
 No. 5, ALDEN S. WOOD,
 No. 6, GEORGE I. HAYWARD,
 No. 7, ANDREW B. STONE,
 No. 8, XENEPHON W. BROOKS,
 No. 9, JAMES D. MATHEWS,

Hancock High School Committee.

HANCOCK, April 25, 1874.

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing account presented by the Hancock High School Committee for the year 1873-4, and find the same correctly cast and fully vouched.

ASA SIMONDS,
 JOSHUA S. LAKIN,
 JOHN H. FELCH,

Selectmen of Hancock.

HANCOCK, N. H., Nov. 10, 1874.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

In compliance with a vote of the town at the last Annual meeting, I herewith submit the following report of the condition of the Town Library:

The whole number of volumes now in the Library is 805. Whole number taken out during the year, 1,684. Whole amount of money received for fines during the year, \$3.48, from which two dollars have been expended for new library labels, leaving \$1.49 on hand. The library was first opened to the public, May 19, 1860, with 235 volumes purchased, and 35 volumes presented. Considering the amount of reading to which the books have been subjected during the time the library has been in operation, it is a gratifying fact that not one book has been lost or destroyed, and the library is in a good condition to-day.

The Library Committee have just received from the Town Treasurer, seventy-five dollars, which is the interest on the Hubbard legacy up to January 1, 1875. This money will soon be expended in the purchase of new books. With this, and an annual income of sixty dollars, it is safe to predict that the Library will continue to be a source of benefit to us and our posterity.

A. D. TUTTLE,

Librarian.

FEBRUARY 22, 1875.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

In accordance with a vote of the Town of the 1st of January 1871, the Librarian has the honor to submit the following report for the year 1870.

The Librarian has the honor to report that the Town of the 1st of January 1871 has received a new library building, which has been erected on the site of the old one, and is now open to the public. The new building is a two-story structure, and is well adapted to the purpose of a library. It contains a large hall, and several smaller rooms, which are well fitted up for the use of the library.

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A. D. TUTTLE

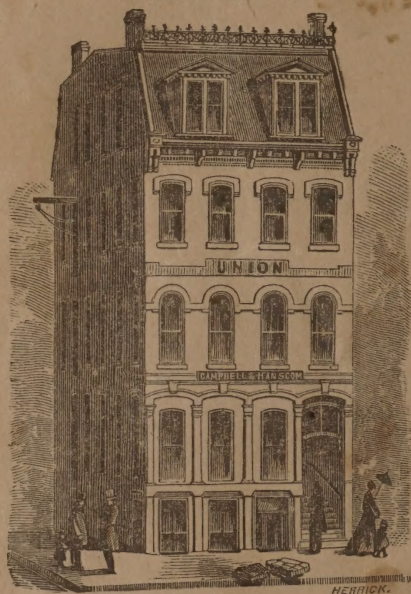
Librarian

January 1st 1871



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MANCHESTER
DAILY UNION
AND
UNION DEMOCRAT,
WEEKLY.



PUBLISHED BY CAMPBELL & HANSCOM.

Union Office Building, Manchester Street, near Elm.

TERMS,— Daily Union, \$6 per annum; Union Democrat, \$2 per annum,
or \$1.50 and postage, making \$1.70 when paid strictly in advance.

THE MONTHLY LITERARY UNION,

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